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In addition to the somites represented by the compound eyes and the antennæ, many Collembola possess rudimentary intercalary appendages, indicating a third premandibular somite. The remaining somites are represented by the mandibles, the superlinguæ, the first maxillæ, and the labium. At an early stage these seven somites have each a pair of ganglia; the three pairs of premandibular ganglia unite to form the supracœsophageal ganglion, and the remaining four pairs fuse to form the subœsophageal ganglion. A comparison of the hexapod and crustacean head is shown as follows: —

SOMITE.	HEXAPODA.	CRUSTACEA.
1	Compound Eyes	Compound Eyes
2	Antennæ	Antennules
3	Intercalary Appendages	Antennæ
4	Mandibles	Mandibles
5	Superlinguæ	First Maxillæ
6	First Maxillæ	Second Maxillæ
7	Labium	First Maxillipedes

G. H. P.

The optic nerves of amphibians, according to the researches of Fritz,[1] undergo a total crossing in the chiasma, so that all the fibres from one eye pass to the other side of the brain. The chiasma has the form of interwoven bundles, which in the Urodela are larger in the middle of the nerves and smaller dorsally and ventrally, and in the Anura are larger ventrally and smaller dorsally. The chiasma has relatively few glia cells compared with the optic nerve. The courses of the nerve fibres in the chiasma were demonstrated by ordinary histological methods and degeneration experiments. Four weeks after the extirpation of an eye the optic nerve fibres began to show the first evidences of degeneration, a condition obtained in warm-blooded animals in two days. In seven months after the removal of the eye the severed nerve had entirely disappeared. The process of absorption which accompanies the degeneration of the nerves in Amphibia makes the degeneration method much less satisfactory for these animals than for other vertebrates. G. H. P.

Notes. — The few Ophidian tapeworms heretofore known have been supplemented by the discovery of a new species, *Ichthyotænia*

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[1] Fritz, F. Ueber die Struktur des Chiasma nervorum opticorum bei Amphibien, *Jena. Zeitschr. für Naturwissenschaften*, Bd. xxxiii, pp. 191–262, Taf. VI–XI. 1899.